



Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Ruckinge Parish Council held on Monday 6th November 2023 at 7.50pm in Ruckinge Village Hall.

Present: Councillors; S Hewison (Chairman), D Archer, T Bennett, T Cliffe-Harrison and P Sillibourne.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Also present: Cllr L Harman (ABC) and 5 residents and 5 representatives from Southern Water.

357. Apologies for absence:

Cllr M Pepper, Cllr D Robey (KCC), P New (Neighbourhood Watch)

358. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

359. Bromley Green Road drainage issues:

Southern Water gave an update on the works to the drains, the survey carried out early in 2023 revealed that 3.3km of pipes required repairs. Tubogel has been identified as the material to most likely resolve the issues, to date 1km has been done but the recent wet weather has slowed progress it is anticipated that completion will be by early 2024. It is also acknowledged that this treatment may not solve the problems alternatives may need to be considered.

As the work has progressed a number of faults within the pods have been identified which will be rectified. It has been acknowledged that communication of the works and the separation of run off water from sewage has been poor, no mention being made of the provision of water butts free of charge.

There has also been an issue where residents are having to phone to report rising levels as the telemetrics do not work, this is being investigated.

It was agreed that Southern Water would produce a letter to all residents and the Parish Council would receive an update on progress pre Xmas.

360. Kent County Councillor's report:

Nothing to report.

361. Neighbourhood Watch:

A brief reminder to take great care on any appeals for flood victims or the war in the Middle East, all the scams around Christmas that will intensify, and to leave no shopping on show in parked vehicles during shopping expeditions.

362. Ashford Borough Councillor's report:

Cllr Harman reported that the potential impact of the Rental Reform Bill on private landlords is likely to see them leave the sector removing homes from the rental sector, ABC is keen to engage with these landlords and work in partnership with them to offer a fully managed service to those who want a low risk hands off service.

363. Public participation:

There were no public submissions.

364. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd October 2023 were submitted, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

365. Planning:

There were no planning applications for consideration.

366. Chairman's report:

Nothing to report.

367. Finance:

Schedule of payments:

ArcGIS software	£162.00
Zurich Insurance	£883.15
Harmer & Sons	£204.00
Bromley Green Hall	£1,500.00
HMRC	£96.20
Clerk's expenses	£8.10
Clerk's salary	£680.10

Resolved: to authorise the payment of the items in the schedule.

368. Ruckinge Village Hall:

One of the new chairs has been recovered as a pilot exercise and to establish the cost, this has come in at £10. It was agreed that a small number of those in poorest condition would be recovered before xmas and some after.

369. Bromley Green:

Nothing to report.

370. Other items for information:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:45